

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAIRO 17295 151840Z
ACTION NEA-10

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C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 17295

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ENRG EG US
SUBJ: NUCLEAR COOPERATION AGREEMENT WITH EGYPT

REF: CAIRO 16147

1. MAHER ABAZA, FIRST UNDERSECRETARY, MINISTRY OF ELECTRICITY CONTACTED EMBOFF DECEMBER 14 TO REQUEST STATUS REPORT ON US/EGYPTIAN AGREEMENT FOR NUCLEAR COOPERATION. AHAZA EXPLAINED HE WAS CALLING ON BEHALF OF DEPRIMIN/MINELECTRICITY SULTAN. EMBOFF SAID NO NEW INFORMATION ABOUT AGREEMENT HAD BEEN RECEIVED SINCE VISIT OF CODEL RIBICOFF/BAKER (WHICH WAS THE LAST TIME AGREEMENT WAS DISCUSSED WITH US). ABAZA ASKED IF WE WOULD REQUEST STATUS REPORT FROM DEPARTMENT AND WE, OF COURSE, AGREED.

2. WOULD APPRECIATE CURRENT STATUS REPORT ON AGREEMENT TO PASS ON TO DEPRIMIN SULTAN. AS WE REPORTED REFTEL NEGOTIATIONS WITH WESTINGHOUSE ARE PROCEEDING DELIBERATELY SLOWLY, ALTHOUGH RECENT PRESS REPORTS HAVE QUOTED MINISTRY OF ELECTRICITY OFFICIALS AS SAYING THAT CONTRACT WITH WESTINGHOUSE WILL BE SIGNED IN JANUARY.
WE CAN EXPECT SULTAN'S INTEREST TO ACCELERATE AS CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS NEAR COMPLETION.
EILTS

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Message Attributes

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